

Appl. No. 09/840,055  
Amdt. dated March 15, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of Nov. 30, 2004

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 09/840,055 Confirmation No. 3715  
Applicant : DeGroote et al.  
Filed : June 24, 2001  
TC/A.U. : 2122  
Examiner : Kuo Liang J Tang  
  
Docket No. : 1002-2U  
Customer No. : 23975

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT**

Sir/Madam:

In response to the Office Action of November 30, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire March 2, 2005, with a one month extension of time up to and including March 30, 2005 being provided herewith, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 8 of this paper.